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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1-3. (Cancelled).
4. (Currently amended) A base for a percutaneously absorbing preparation, comprising ~~10-40%~~ by weight of styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, and/or ~~2-10%~~ by weight of polyisobutylene, ~~10-60%~~ by weight of softener, ~~20-60%~~ by weight of tackifier, ~~1-10%~~ by weight of hexylene glycol and ~~0.1-7%~~ by weight of 1-menthol, wherein ~~10-40%~~ by weight of styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, ~~2-10%~~ by weight of polyisobutylene, ~~10-60%~~ by weight of softener and ~~20-60%~~ by weight of tackifier are essential components, and ~~1-10%~~ by weight of hexylene glycol and ~~0.1-7%~~ by weight of 1-menthol are compounded therewith as the components of the base.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) A percutaneously absorbing preparation wherein a pharmaceutical agent is contained as an effective ingredient in the base for a percutaneously absorbing preparation according to claim 4.
7. (Previously Presented) The percutaneously absorbing preparation according to claim 6, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is follicular hormone and/or luteinizing hormone.
8. (Currently amended) The percutaneously absorbing preparation according to claim 7, wherein the follicular hormone is estradiol, ~~estronc~~, ~~estriol~~, equilin or equilenin or a derivative thereof and its compounding amount is 0.1-5% by weight.

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9. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) The percutaneously absorbing preparation according to claim 7, wherein the luteinizing hormone is norethisterone, norethisterone acetate, ~~norethisterone enanthate or progesterone or a derivative thereof~~ and its compounding amount is 0.5-10% by weight.